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AMERICA**

December 27, 2001

Renata Hesse  
Trial Attorney  
Antitrust Division  
Department of Justice  
601 D Street NW, Suite 1200  
Washington, D.C. 20530

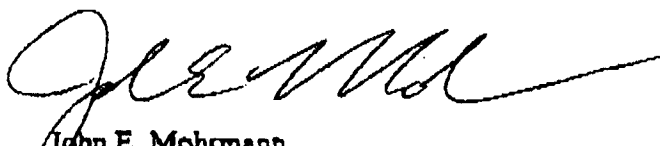
Dear Ms. Hesse:

I am writing to offer comments on the Microsoft case settlement.

As I understand it, under the proposed settlement, all new Microsoft operating systems, including Windows XP, would have to include a mechanism that readily allows end users to remove or re-enable Microsoft's middleware products. Those include the Internet browser, instant messaging tools, media player, and email utilities. While end users can already remove Microsoft middleware from Windows XP, this settlement would make it easier for users to switch and compare among competing middleware products. As an end user, I feel that this provision guarantees me flexibility.

May I also add that settlement of this case is in everyone's best interests - the technology industry, the economy and consumers.

Sincerely yours,



John E. Mohrmann  
7300 Brook Road  
Richmond, Virginia 23227